

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

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Claims 1-5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): An image processing apparatus, comprising:

storage control means for controlling storage of a plurality of pixels inputted thereto;

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A detection means for detecting presence or absence of a boundary line in the proximity of the pixels whose storage has been controlled by said storage control means;

position calculation means for calculating positions of the boundary line with respect to the pixels whose storage has been controlled by said storage control means;

weighting means for weighting the pixel values of the pixels and juxtaposed pixels in accordance with the positions calculated by said position calculation means; and

outputting means for outputting the pixels weighted by said weighting means.

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Claim 7 (currently amended): An image processing method, comprising:  
a storage control step of controlling storage of a plurality of pixels inputted;  
a detection step of detecting presence or absence of a boundary line in the proximity of the pixels whose storage has been controlled by the processing of the storage control step;  
a position calculation step of calculating positions of the boundary line with respect to the pixels whose storage has been controlled by the processing of the storage control step;  
a weighting step of weighting the pixel values of the pixels and juxtaposed pixels in accordance with the positions calculated by the position calculation step; and  
an outputting step of outputting the pixels weighted by the processing of the weighting step.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A recording medium on which a computer-readable program is recorded, the computer-readable program comprising:  
a storage control step of controlling storage of a plurality of pixels inputted;  
a detection step of detecting presence or absence of a boundary line in the proximity of the pixels whose storage has been controlled by the processing of the storage control step;  
a position calculation step of calculating positions of the boundary line with respect to the pixels whose storage has been controlled by the processing of the storage control step;  
a weighting step of weighting the pixel values of the pixels and juxtaposed pixels in accordance with the positions calculated by the position calculation step; and  
an outputting step of outputting the pixels weighted by the processing of the weighting step.

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